HUTCHINSON - Congressman Jerry Moran this week announced the new Hutchinson veterans health clinic is now open and serving area veterans. Moran participated in the grand opening ceremony on Friday.

"At a veterans forum I hosted in Hutchinson in 2004, area veterans voiced their concerns about access to health care services in south-central Kansas," Moran said. "We worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs to see that this need was met by opening an outpatient clinic. I am pleased with the movement on this project and appreciate the VA's support of the Community Based Outpatient Clinic program."

The clinic is located at 1625 E. 30th Avenue in Hutchinson and is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Appointments must be scheduled by calling (888) 878-6881 extension 41100. Veterans have access to about a dozen medical staff for primary health care and laboratory work at the clinic. Behavioral and mental health services will be available at a later time. A Kansas Commissioner of Veterans Affairs representative will be on site to assist with applications for benefits and health care. The Dole VA Medical Center estimates the Hutchinson clinic will serve around 2300 existing patients and 200 new patients.

Since first coming to Congress, Moran has helped open four other outpatient clinics in the First District including Hays, Dodge City, Salina and Junction City. Moran is a senior member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

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